

Testimony of

James Rogers

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Before the

Education Committee

March 15, 2023

Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of House Bill 6884. This bill takes important steps toward addressing the educator shortage in Connecticut, showing educators that theirs is a respected profession, and ensuring that our classrooms and schools can provide the best possible education for our students.

As parts of our country struggle with education, the retention of teachers, and giving educators the dignity and respect they deserve; Connecticut has always been strong in supporting education. HB 6884 continues to show the support of the State towards education. As a teacher who worked through COVID the benefits would be greatly appreciated. And the changes to enhance recruitment and retention are so very important. Every year I see more and more teachers leaving the profession or retiring early because it has become more difficult to teach in today's world and environment. I ask you to pass HB 6884 and continue to support Connecticut's teachers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

